

DEANMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION INC

Minutes of Meeting 25 August 2008

Present

Janet Pettigrew (President), Sharon Dixon (Vice President), Samantha Maddern (Secretary), Robyn Attwell, Kris Clapé, Suzanne Croston, Bruce Johnson, Ross Parker, Carol Pickering, Katrina Tap, Sally Tyers, Kim Woolford, Liz Behjat (Liberal candidate for North Metro Region), Scott Blackwell (Labor candidate for Scarborough), Liza Harvey (Liberal candidate for Scarborough).

1 Apologies

S Higgins, T Johnson, C Parker, G Roberts, J Wilkinson and staff (Deanmore staff did not attend this meeting to avoid any suggestion of improperly favouring one political party over another in the lead up to the State election in accordance with a directive from the Director General.)

2 Acceptance of Minutes of Meeting 28 July 2008

Moved by S Dixon, seconded by B Johnson that the minutes of the General Meeting held 28 July 2008 is a true and accurate record of proceedings. **Carried.**

3 New school for Deanmore

J Pettigrew confirmed that, following correspondence with the Liberal spokesperson for Education, Peter Collier, should the Liberals win the election on 6 September, a Liberal Government will honour the commitment made by current Labor Minister for Education, Mark McGowan, on 12 August that Deanmore will get a new \$14.25m school that will be built as a public asset (rather than under a PPP) and will be open by February 2011.

The following is the text of Mr Collier's e-mail to Janet received on 25 August:

Dear Janet – Thank you for your message. I am delighted to confirm that the Liberal Party will commit to rebuilding Deanmore Primary School as per the government's offer. As the government announcement was made prior to the declaration of the election, the Liberal Party will deliver the school under identical procurement – that is, not under a public, private partnership. Therefore, following the election, Deanmore will have a new primary school – terrific news!

Kind regards,
Peter

Liza Harvey confirmed this.

J Pettigrew thanked both Scott Blackwell and Liza Harvey for their efforts on behalf of Deanmore and noted that both had taken a very keen interest in our school in recent months. At the school assembly to be held on Friday 29 August the support and positions of both parties will be mentioned so that our community is aware that, regardless of who wins the election, we will get our new school by February 2011.

4 Correspondence

Nothing to report other than the usual correspondence to/from DET and various VIPs regarding buildings and grounds.

5 Principal's Report

In Jeannie's absence, J Pettigrew went through the **attached** report. (If viewing minutes by e-mail, please refer to attachments on P&C website www.deanmorepandc.org.au) The following is a summary:

- 5.1 **Principal's office** – trying hard to obtain a demountable with en suite.
- 5.2 **P & C Award** – S Maddern submitted an entry for Deanmore P&C in the Australian Women's Weekly Paradise Foods P&C Award.
- 5.3 **Premier's Teacher of the Year Award** – J Pettigrew completed the nomination of Jeanette Taylor. Thank you to all parents who provided comments and feedback for Janet to include in her nomination. Dan Rodgers has also been nominated for a separate award, Inspirational Teacher of the Year.
- 5.4 **Smartboard Technology** – correspondence from J Brajdic and J Stene re benefits of this technology.
- 5.5 **School Registrar** – Tina Magatelli is currently on sick leave after being hospitalised unexpectedly. Date of return unknown. (P&C agreed to send flowers to Tina – S Maddern to arrange.)

6 Treasurer's Report and allocation of funds

See **attached** report. It states there is \$3,159.52 in the P&C account available to be allocated.

Moved by J Pettigrew, seconded by S Dixon that the P&C contribute \$792.00 for payment for 300 Deanmore DVDs (to be sold for \$5 a copy).

S Dixon noted that some money will be needed to purchase goods for upcoming sausage sizzles at Bunnings.

Possibility of paying for high pressure hose to clean undercover area which is in an appalling state. P&C to ask Greg Downes to look into this – how often is it cleaned, should it be more often, who should pay?

7 Matters arising from previous Minutes

- 7.1 **P&C Award** – S Maddern thanked parents who assisted her in putting together a detailed submission for this award with special thanks to J Metcalf and J Brajdic who wrote letters of support. If we win the State Award the prize is \$2,000 cash + \$1,000 Rebel Sports voucher; the National winner receives a further \$10,000 cash + \$2,000 Rebel Sports voucher, plus of course invaluable publicity for their school.

8 Matters arising from Subcommittees

- 8.1 **Fundraising** – More Bunnings sausage sizzles in September (but no sausage sizzle on election day); Factions sports carnival Wed 17 Sept – cake stall and coffee van to be arranged; Wall-E movie night at Warwick Cinema Fri 19 Sept; spellathon completed – money due in now; suggested alternative in 2009 to spell, lap and skip athon – some activity with our dogs? Dads' Drinks Friday 12 Sept at Scarboro Sportsmen's Club.

9 General Business

- 9.1 **WACSSO Conference** – S Maddern attended this conference on behalf of Deanmore P&C on Saturday 16 August at Burswood and provided a brief summary of the key points of interest:

DET presentation on “*Catering for the Natives – Global Technology*”

- DET must provide an ICT- rich environment to cater for needs and expectations of students
- Research conducted confirms what everyone believed, that the learning environment is much more engaging when appropriate ICT available and that ICT supported learning does enhance students’ learning opportunities and outcomes
- Major DET strategy: Digital Learning Platform to be rolled out.

While DET is clearly committed to enhancing ICT in all schools, the question is: where will the money come from and will it be enough? Clearly not. So we as a P&C must continue to do everything we can to assist in the provision of ICT assets and opportunities for our school. Should continue to liaise closely with J Brajdic and J Metcalf to assess needs in this regard.

DET presentation on “*Languages Education in Public Schools*”

- We need to prepare our students for the global stage where they will travel, live and work in increasing numbers
- there are many positives from learning another language including career opportunities, the ability to communicate across cultures, increased awareness of different ways of thinking, increased tolerance and respect of other cultures.
- the National Asian Languages & Studies in Schools Program is an initiative of the Rudd Govt (\$62.4m over four years). Aims: to increase Asian languages in classes; to increase teacher training and support; by 2020 to have 12% of Year 12 students leaving school with fluency in one of the big 4 Asian languages – Mandarin, Japanese, Indonesian, Korean.
- WA lagging behind national average for languages generally and Asian languages.
- DET’s goal to increase participation rates in Years 10-12 in one of the six mainstream languages – Mandarin, Japanese, Indonesian, French, German, Italian.
- Biggest challenge is the shortage of highly skilled language teachers.
- Need to strengthen connection between primary and secondary school language programs (eg make sure language taught in Primary School is available in High Schools); increase teacher collaboration; have student mentors from High School to encourage Primary School students to learn a language; increase the quality of support for the teachers.

The message for Deanmore P&C is that we should look at what we can do to assist with, promote or enhance Japanese language study at Deanmore. This should be followed up at a later meeting when staff are present. Is Indonesian a possibility? Student exchanges? Additional resources?

- 9.2 **Bulletin** – Bruce is looking for a new editor due to his work commitments. Will let us know who the lucky person is!

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Next meeting: Monday 22 September 2008, 7.30pm in the Staff Room

Summary of items requiring action

- 5.5 **S Maddern** – flowers for Tina
6 **G Downes** – cleaning of undercover area – information sought